CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method for monitoring one or more objects of a specified class, said class having one or more attributes, each said object having an attribute value associated with each attribute, said method comprising:

dynamically identifying the objects of the specified class;

comparing at least one of the attribute values of each identified object with a threshold value associated with at least one of the attributes in the class;

maintaining a list of the identified objects and the attribute values of the identified objects over time;

identifying changes in the maintained attribute values of each identified object over time; and

performing one or more functions in response to comparing and identifying changes.

2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the class represents at least one process, thread, or mass storage device.

3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the class represents a mass storage device and the attributes include a free space attribute, a capacity attribute, and a description attribute.

4. The computer-implemented method of claim 3, wherein performing includes notifying a user of a free space attribute and a description attribute of a specific object if the free space attribute value of the specific object exceeds the threshold value associated with the free space attribute of the specific object.

5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein performing includes generating a notification if an attribute value of a specific object exceeds the threshold value.

6. The computer-implemented method of claim 5, further comprising suppressing the notification if the attribute value of the specific object exceeded the threshold value in the previous interval.

7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein performing includes averaging attribute values over the intervals as an indication of performance.

8. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein performing includes displaying the attribute values to a user.

9. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein a user specifies the threshold value for each of the attributes in the class.

10. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein maintaining includes adding at least one of the identified objects to the list, deleting at least one of the identified objects from the list, and/or preserving the list.

11. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein dynamically identifying the objects includes limiting the amount of objects identified.

12. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein dynamically identifying the objects occurs in response to a user request.

13. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the objects are stored in a database, wherein identifying occurs in response to an update to the database.

14. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the threshold value is associated with a plurality of the attributes of the class.

15. One or more computer readable media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in claim 1.

16. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components for monitoring one or more objects of a specified class, said class having one or more attributes, each said object having an attribute value associated with each attribute, said computer-readable medium comprising:

an object identification component for dynamically identifying the objects of the specified class;

a comparison component for comparing at least one of the attribute values of each identified object with a threshold value associated with at least one of the attributes in the class;

a history component for identifying changes in the attribute values of each identified object over time; and

a performance component responsive to the comparison component and the history component for performing one or more functions.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the history component comprises an object maintenance component for maintaining a list of the identified objects and the attribute values of the identified objects.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the object identification component includes computer-executable instructions for identifying all the objects of the specified class.

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the identification component includes computer-executable instructions for limiting the amount of objects identified.

20. A system for monitoring one or more objects of a class, said class having one or more attributes, each said object having an attribute value associated with each attribute, said system comprising:

means for dynamically identifying the objects of the class;

means for comparing at least one of the attribute values of each identified object with a threshold value associated with at least one of the attributes in the class;

means for maintaining a list of the identified objects and the attribute values of the identified objects over time;

means for identifying changes in the maintained attribute values of each identified object over time; and

means for performing one or more functions in response to said means for comparing and said means for identifying changes.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the means for maintaining include an array in an application.

22. The system of claim 20, further comprising means for specifying the class, wherein said means for specifying include a graphical user interface or a textual user interface.